

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PEKING 00884 040051Z
ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 L-03 HA-05 PM-05 NSC-05 SP-02
SS-15 DODE-00 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-01 ICA-11
/070 W

-----092194 041907Z /70

R 030911Z APR 78
FM USLO PEKING
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0301
INFO AMCONSUL HONG KONG
AMEMBASSY TAIPEI
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PINR PGOV CH
SUBJ: CANTON RETURNS TO CODIFIED LEGAL SYSTEM

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

1. SUMMARY: NOTICES BEARING THE TEXT OF THE 1957 "SECURITY ADMINISTRATION PUNISHMENT ACT" APPEARED ALL OVER CANTON DURING THE WEEK MARCH 17-24. A VERBATIM REISSUE OF THE OCTOBER 22, 1957 ACT "BY ORDER OF THE CHAIRMAN OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA" WAS DATED DECEMBER 1977 BY THE CANTON MUNICIPAL PUBLIC SECURITY BUREAU, BUT CANTON RESIDENTS SAY THAT THE NOTICE HAS BEEN UP FOR A LITTLE OVER TWO WEEKS. THE NOTICE HAS YET TO APPEAR IN PEKING. END SUMMARY.

2. THE "SECURITY ADMINISTRATION PUNISHMENT ACT" (CHIH-AN KUAN-LI CH'ENG-FA T'IAO-LI) WAS PROMULGATED BY THE 81ST MEETING OF THE FIRST NPC STANDING COMMITTEE ON OCTOBER 22, 1957 IN AN EFFORT TO CREATE A SYSTEM FOR ADMINISTRATION
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OF CRIMINAL LAW MORE ORDERLY THAN THE INFORMAL SANCTIONING SYSTEM THAT HAD PREVIOUSLY BEEN IN EFFECT (SEE J.A. COHEN: THE CRIMINAL PROCESS IN THE PRC, PP 200-237). IT PROVIDES FOR DIRECT POLICE SANCTIONS AGAINST MINOR CRIMINAL INFRACTIONS RANGING FROM "WARNING" TO UP TO FIFTEEN DAYS DETENTION AS WELL AS FULL COMPENSATION FOR ANY DAMAGE DONE. AMONG THE

CRIMES PUNISHABLE BY DETENTION OF NOT MORE THAN TEN DAYS AND FINES OF NOT MORE THAN TWENTY RMB ARE: GANG FIGHTING, DAMAGING PUBLIC NOTICES, PUTTING UP FOR SALE OR RENT REACTIONARY, OBSCENE OR "ABSURD" BOOKS, PERIODICALS, PICTURE BOOKS OR PICTURES, AND ENGAGING IN PROSTITUTION OR HAVING SEXUAL RELATIONS WITH PROSTITUTES. THE 5,000 CHARACTER NOTICE LISTED PERHAPS FORTY OTHER SPECIFIC MINOR CRIMES FROM GANGLING TO DISTURBING THE PEACE ABOARD PUBLIC FERRIES.

3. THE NOTICE WAS STILL ATTRACTING PUBLIC ATTENTION ON CANTON STREETS. ON SUNDAY, MARCH 26 EACH OF SIX NOTICES SIGHTED BY USLO OFFICER DREW GROUPS FROM FOUR TO TEN PEOPLE. THE NOTICES WERE ALSO POSTED IN SCHOOL-YARDS, APARTMENT RESIDENCES, TAXI STANDS. ONE CANTON RESIDENT TOLD USLO OFFICER THAT THE NOTICES HAD GONE UP TWO WEEKS BEFORE.

4. THE POSTERS HAVE NOT YET APPEARED IN PEKING, NOR HAVE THERE BEEN ANY REPORTS OF SIGHTINGS IN ANY OTHER PRC CITIES. THE APPEARANCES IN CANTON MAY INDICATE THAT THAT CITY MAY BE HAVING MORE OF A PROBLEM IN CONTROLLING PUBLIC ORDER THAN OTHER CITIES AND HAS SOUGHT TO LEGITIMIZE ITS SANCTIONS BY PUBLICLY ISSUING THE 1957 LAW, WHILE OTHER MUNICIPAL PSB'S STILL CONSIDER IT AN INTERNAL DOCUMENT.
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WOODCOCK

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
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Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: GOVERNMENT REFORM, LAW
Control Number: n/a
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Draft Date: 03 apr 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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ISecure: 1
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Status: NATIVE
Subject: CANTON RETURNS TO CODIFIED LEGAL SYSTEM CINCPAC FOR POLAD
TAGS: PINR, PGOV, CH
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